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REPORT NO. 89-R-08  
AFPEA PROJECT NO. 88-P-102

AD-A211 339

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QUALIFICATION TESTING OF THE COMBAT TALON II  
MULTISENSOR SIGNAL PROCESSOR CONTAINER

HQ AFLC/DSTZ  
AIR FORCE PACKAGING EVALUATION ACTIVITY  
Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433-5999

August 1989

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## ABSTRACT

Aeronautical Systems Division, ASD/VXAL, requested assistance from the Air Force Packaging Evaluation Activity (AFPEA) to choose an off the shelf container and qualify it for the multisensor signal processor (S/P) used on Combat Talon II aircraft.

The S/P prototype container was tested at the AFPEA, HQ AFLC/DSTZ, Wright-Patterson AFB, OH 45433-5999. The container is environmentally sealed and outfitted with a humidity indicator and pressure relief valve. The container is designed to protect one S/P during worldwide shipment, storage, and handling.

The container test plan was developed to test the fragility and environmental sealing qualification requirements. The tests were conducted in accordance with Federal Test Method Standard No. 101, and Military Standard 648.

Results of the tests conducted on the prototype container show that the container provides adequate mechanical protection but only marginal environmental protection. Based on the projected operational environment, the system program office has elected to use the container.

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## INTRODUCTION

BACKGROUND: Aeronautical Systems Division (ASD/VXAL), Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433-5000 requested assistance from the Air Force Packaging Evaluation Activity (AFPEA) to choose an off the shelf container for the multisensor signal processor (S/P) and perform qualification testing. The container chosen was a plastic multipurpose container designed by Hardigg Industries, South Deerfield, MA 01373.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this project was to determine if the container design will protect the contents, one S/P for Combat Talon II aircraft, during worldwide shipment, storage, and handling.

## DESCRIPTION OF TEST CONTAINER

Two identical containers were involved in the testing. The 11214-8678-200 prototype container, now referred to as -200A or -200B were subjected to extensive testing. The sides, latches and hinges of the container were numbered counterclockwise from the forward end as shown in figure 1.

Design: The -200 prototype is a controlled-breathing container with a pressure relief valve and humidity indicator (see figure 2). The container is designed to limit the transmission of shocks to the S/P to 40 Gs. The container cover is permanently hinged on one side (see figure 3) and eight wing latches on the remaining sides allow quick access to the container contents without the use of tools.

Construction: The container is rotationally molded from a formulation of polyethylene. Two pound density polyethylene foam encapsulates the item (see figure 4). A silicone gasket provides a seal between the container base and the container cover.

## TEST OUTLINE AND TEST EQUIPMENT

Test Plan: Tests were conducted in accordance with AFPEA Test Plan 88-P-102 (see table 1). The tests used were selected to meet the qualification requirements for fragility and environmental sealing. Test methods, procedures and pass/fail criteria used were as outlined in Federal Test Method Standard No. 101 (FED-STD-101) and Military Standard 648. Any modifications to the standard procedures are noted in the test plan or the results. Each test result will specify the container used for that test, -200A or -200B.

Test Load: All tests were conducted using the S/P test load fabricated at the AFPEA. The test load weighs 89 pounds and simulates the center of gravity and the mass moment of inertia of an actual S/P.

Test Site: All testing was conducted at the AFPEA, HQ AFLC/DSTZ, Building 70, Area C, Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433-5999. The equipment required for each test is noted in the test plan.

## TEST PROCEDURES AND RESULTS

### Weight Test

Test No. 1: The containers were weighed to determine weight compliance.

Results: Total tare weight of each container was 52.5 pounds. The results of this test are acceptable.

### Leak Test

Test No. 2: The pneumatic pressure test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5009.2 at 0.50 psig. The vacuum retention test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5009.2 at 0.50 psig. The failure criteria for the test was 0.025 psig loss during a 30 minute period, after temperature and pressure stabilization.

Results: At the end of the 30 minute test period the pressure loss for container -200A was 0.024 psig and 0.021 psig for container -200B. At the end of the 30 minute test period the vacuum loss for containers -200A and -200B was 0.024 psig. The results of this test are acceptable.

### Free Fall Drop Tests (+140°F)

Test No. 3: The high temperature free fall drop tests were conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5007.1. The height of the drops were 18 inches.

Results: Visual inspection revealed no external damage to the -200A container. A maximum of 13 Gs was obtained during the tests.

The container was opened after the free fall drop tests. Visual inspection revealed no damage to the container or the test load. The results of these tests are acceptable. See appendix 1 for detailed acceleration results.

### Leak Test

Test No. 4: The pneumatic pressure test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5009.2. The test was performed at 0.50 psig. The failure criteria for the test was a 0.0125 psig loss during a 15 minute period after temperature and pressure stabilization.

Results: At the end of the 15 minute test period the pressure loss for container -200A was 0.0125 psig. The result of this test is acceptable.

### Free Fall Drop Tests (-20°F)

Test No. 5: The low temperature free fall drop tests were conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5007.1. The height of the drops were 18 inches.

Results: Visual inspection revealed no external damage to the -200A container. A maximum of 15 Gs was obtained during the tests.

The container was opened after the free fall drop tests. Visual inspection revealed no damage to the container or the test load. However after cold conditioning the decals fell off the container. The results of this test are acceptable.

### Leak Test

Test No. 6: The pneumatic pressure test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5009.2. The test was performed at 0.50 psig. The failure criteria for the test was a 0.0125 psig loss during a 15 minute period after temperature and pressure stabilization.

Results: At the end of the 15 minute test period the pressure loss for container -200A was 0.01 psig. The result of this test is acceptable.

### Superimposed Load Test

Test No. 7: The ambient superimposed load test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5016.1. A load of 2434 pounds was placed on top of the container using load spreaders. This simulates the loading of a stack of nine containers with a safety factor of two on the bottom container.

Results: Visual inspection revealed no permanent deformation to the -200A container. The result of this test is acceptable.

### Leak Test

Test No. 8: The pneumatic pressure test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5009.2. The test was performed at 0.50 psig. The failure criteria for the test was a 0.0125 psig loss during a 15 minute period after temperature and pressure stabilization.

Results: At the end of the 15 minute test period the pressure loss for container -200A was 0.011 psig. The result of this test is acceptable.

### Vibration Fatigue Test

Test No. 9: The vibration fatigue test was conducted in accordance with MIL-STD-648, paragraph 5.3.2. The container was rigidly attached to the platform. A sinusoidal vibration excitation was applied in a vertical direction and cyclically swept for 7.5 minutes at 2 minutes per octave to locate the resonant frequency. Input from 5 to 12.5 Hz was at 0.125 inch double amplitude and input from 12.5 to 50.0 Hz was at 1.0 G. A 30 minute dwell test was conducted at the resonant frequency.

Results: Visual inspection revealed no damage to the -200A container or the test load. A maximum of 2.5 Gs was obtained at the resonant frequency of 17.2 Hz. The maximum transmissibility obtained was 1.7. The results of this test are acceptable.

### Leak Test

Test No. 10: The pneumatic pressure test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5009.2. The test was performed at 0.50 psig. The failure criteria for the test was a 0.0125 psig loss during a 15 minute period after temperature and pressure stabilization.

Results: The -200A container would not pressurize and a leakage rate could not be obtained. Although the container failed the leak test after the vibration fatigue test, the failure was a result of deformation to the hinges due to overall use during testing.

Anomaly: At this time container -200A was removed from the testing procedures and replaced with container -200B to finish the test plan as requested by the program office. Production containers will be equipped with latches and not hinges (see recommendations). Based on the projected operational environment, sealing ability is not a necessity.



### Vibration Fatigue Test

Test No. 9: The vibration fatigue test was repeated for container -200B in accordance with MIL-STD-648, paragraph 5.3.2. The container was rigidly attached to the platform. A sinusoidal vibration excitation was applied in a vertical direction and cyclically swept for 7.5 minutes at 2 minutes per octave to locate the resonant frequency. Input from 5 to 12.5 Hz was at 0.125 inch double amplitude and input from 12.5 to 50.0 Hz was at 1.0 G. A 30 minute dwell test was conducted at the resonant frequency.

Results: Visual inspection revealed no damage to the -200B container or the test load. A maximum of 2.6 Gs was obtained at the resonant frequency of 15.0 Hz. The maximum transmissibility obtained was 1.2. The results of this test are acceptable.

### Leak Test

Test No. 10: The pneumatic pressure test was repeated for container -200B in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5009.2. The test was performed at 0.50 psig. The failure criteria for the test was a 0.0125 psig loss during a 15 minute period after temperature and pressure stabilization.

Results: At the end of the 15 minute test period the pressure loss for container -200B was 0.011 psig. The result of this test is acceptable.

### Hoisting Strength Test

Test No. 11: The single ring hoisting test was conducted in accordance with MIL-STD-648, paragraph 5.8.5. The loaded container was lifted by a lift ring and suspended for five minutes.

Results: Visual inspection of the -200B container revealed no damage or deformation. The result of this test is acceptable.

### Leak Test

Test No. 12: The pneumatic pressure test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5009.2. The test was performed at 0.50 psig. The failure criteria for the test was a 0.0125 psig loss during a 15 minute period after temperature and pressure stabilization.

Results: At the end of the 15 minute test period the pressure loss for container -200B was 0.012 psig. The result of this test is acceptable.

### Superimposed Load Test

Test No. 13: The high temperature, high humidity superimposed load test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5016.1. A load of 1217 pounds was placed on top of the container using load spreaders this simulates the loading of a stack of nine containers with a safety factor of one on the bottom container.

Results: Visual inspection revealed a permanent deformation of the container. This deformation did not cause any damage to the S/P or impair stackability.

### Leak Test

Test No. 14: The pneumatic pressure test was conducted in accordance with FED-STD-101, Method 5009.2. The test was performed at 0.50 psig. The failure criteria for the test was a 0.0125 psig loss during a 15 minute period after temperature and pressure stabilization.

Results: The -200B container would not pressurize and a leakage rate could not be obtained. This occurred due to the permanent deformation of the container from the high temperature, high humidity superimposed load test.

### CONCLUSION

The -200 prototype container provided adequate mechanical protection for the contents when tested in accordance with the container test plan. However, the container provides marginal environmental protection, especially if the container will be shipped and/or stored in a stacked configuration under tropical conditions.

### RECOMMENDATIONS

The container should have wing latches only, no hinges. Additional cushion cut outs around the pressure relief valve and humidity indicator. Decals on the containers need better adherence for cold temperature environments. Container walls need to be made stiffer for more stability. The container should not be used for long term storage.

Table 1. Test Plan

AIR FORCE PACKAGING EVALUATION ACTIVITY (Container Test Plan)				AFPEA PROJECT NUMBER 88-P-102	
CONTAINER SIZE (L x W x D) (INCHES)		WEIGHT (LBS)		CUBE (CU. FT.)	QUANTITY
INTERIOR:	EXTERIOR:	GROSS:	ITEM:		DATE
					3 Jul 89
ITEM NAME LRUs			MANUFACTURER Hardigg Industries		
CONTAINER NAME Part numbers 11214-8678-200			CONTAINER COST		
PACK DESCRIPTION Composite Container					
CONDITIONING As noted below.					
TEST NO.	REF STD/SPEC AND TEST METHOD OR PROCEDURE NO'S	TEST TITLE AND PARAMETERS	CONTAINER ORIENTATION	INSTRUMENTATION	
1.	<u>WEIGHT TEST</u>	Total container weight should not be less than 52 lbs.	Fully assembled container including shock isolation system.	Scale	
2.	<u>LEAK TEST</u> FED-STD-101 Method 5009.2	Pneumatic pressure at 0.50 PSIG and vacuum retention at 0.50 PSIG. Test duration to be a minimum of 30 minutes with 0.025 PSIG loss allowed after temperature stabilization.	Test at ambient condition from compressed air supply/vacuum pump.	Water manometer	
3.	<u>FREE FALL DROP TESTS (HIGH TEMPERATURE +140°F)</u> FED-STD-101 Method 5007.1	Free fall drop test. Condition at +140°F for not less than 24 hours. Drop height 18 inches or maximum height where container does not tilt over on side. Peak resultant acceleration shall not exceed 40Gs.	Test performed in chamber. Drop on half of sides and corners, total of four drops.*	Tri-axial accelerometers	
COMMENTS: * Remaining impacts to be performed in Test No. 5.					
PREPARED BY: <i>Susan Hughes</i> Susan Hughes, Mechanical Engineer			APPROVED BY: <i>Ted Hinds</i> Ted Hinds, Chief, Design Br., AFPEA		

# AIR FORCE PACKAGING EVALUATION ACTIVITY

(Container Test Plan)

AFPEA PROJECT NUMBER

88-P-102

CONTAINER SIZE (L x W x D) (INCHES)

WEIGHT (LBS)

CUBE (CU. FT.)

QUANTITY

DATE

INTERIOR:

EXTERIOR:

GROSS:

ITEM:

3 Jul 89

ITEM NAME

MANUFACTURER

LRUs

Hardigg Industries

CONTAINER NAME

CONTAINER COST

Part numbers 11214-8678-200

PACK DESCRIPTION

Composite Container

CONDITIONING

As noted below.

TEST NO.	REF STD/SPEC AND TEST METHOD OR PROCEDURE NO'S	TEST TITLE AND PARAMETERS	CONTAINER ORIENTATION	INSTRUMENTATION
4.	<u>LEAK TEST</u> FED-STD-101 Method 5009.2	Pneumatic pressure with 0.50 PSIG. Test duration not less than 15 minutes with 0.0125 PSIG loss allowed after temperature stabilization.	Ambient	Water manometer
5.	<u>ROUGH HANDLING TESTS (LOW TEMPERATURE -20°F)</u> FED-STD-101 Method 5007.1	Free fall drop test. Condition at -20°F for not less than 24 hours. Drop height 18 inches or maximum height where container does not tilt over. Peak resultant acceleration shall not exceed 40Gs.	Test performed in chamber. Drop on half of sides and corners, total of four drops.*	Tri-axial accelerometers
6.	<u>LEAK TEST</u> FED-STD-101 Method 5009.2	Pneumatic pressure with 0.50 PSIG. Test duration not less than 15 minutes with 0.0125 PSIG loss allowed after temperature stabilization.	Ambient	Water manometer
7.	<u>SUPERIMPOSED LOAD (Ambient temperature)</u> FED-STD-101 Method 5016.1	At ambient temperature, stack two containers with additional load on top to simulate stacking	Stack two high, bottom container is under test.	Visual inspection

COMMENTS: \* These impacts are opposite those performed in Test No. 3.

PREPARED BY:

APPROVED BY:

Susan Hughey, Mechanical Engineer

Ted Hinds, Chief, Design Br., AFPEA

# AIR FORCE PACKAGING EVALUATION ACTIVITY

(Container Test Plan)

AFPEA PROJECT NUMBER

88-P-102

CONTAINER SIZE (L x W x D) (INCHES)  
INTERIOR: EXTERIOR:

WEIGHT (LBS)  
GROSS: ITEM:

CUBE (CU. FT.)

QUANTITY

DATE

3 Jul 89

ITEM NAME

LRUs

MANUFACTURER

Hardigg Industries

CONTAINER NAME

Part numbers 11214-8678-200

CONTAINER COST

PACK DESCRIPTION

Composite Container

CONDITIONING

As noted below.

TEST NO.	REF STD/SPEC AND TEST METHOD OR PROCEDURE NO'S	TEST TITLE AND PARAMETERS	CONTAINER ORIENTATION	INSTRUMENTATION
		9 containers or 16 ft high, whichever is greater. Load equals load on bottom container times a factor of safety of 2. Test duration not less than 1 hour. Additional load placed on top container such that the total load is carried by the stacking provisions. There shall be no permanent deformation.		
8.	<u>LEAK TEST</u> FED-STD-101 Method 5009.2	Pneumatic pressure with 0.50 PSIG. Test duration not less than 15 minutes with 0.0125 PSIG loss allowed after temperature stabilization.	Ambient	Water manometer
9.	<u>VIBRATION FATIGUE TEST</u> MIL-STD-648 Para 5.3.2	Input excitation of 0.125 inch double amplitude or 1G, whichever is less. Sweep approximately logarithmically from 5 to 50 Hz (about 1/2	Rigidly attach container to exciter. The use of straps is prohibited.	Triaxial accelerometers, Thermocouples

COMMENTS:

PREPARED BY:

Susan Hughey, Mechanical Engineer

APPROVED BY:

Ted Hinds, Chief, Design Br., AFPEA

# AIR FORCE PACKAGING EVALUATION ACTIVITY

(Container Test Plan)

AFPEA PROJECT NUMBER

88-P-102

CONTAINER SIZE (L x W x D) (INCHES)  
INTERIOR: EXTERIOR:

WEIGHT (LBS)  
GROSS: ITEM:

CUBE (CU. FT.)

QUANTITY

DATE

3 Jul 89

ITEM NAME

LRUs

MANUFACTURER

Hardigg Industries

CONTAINER NAME

Part numbers 11214-8678-200

CONTAINER COST

PACK DESCRIPTION

Composite Container

CONDITIONING

As noted below.

TEST NO.	REF STD/SPEC AND TEST METHOD OR PROCEDURE NO'S	TEST TITLE AND PARAMETERS	CONTAINER ORIENTATION	INSTRUMENTATION
		octave/min) for 7-1/2 minutes. Then dwell 30 minutes at the resonant frequency. The test may be interrupted to prevent excessive temperature rise in materials. Transmissibility shall not exceed 5 at the resonant frequency.		
10	LEAK TEST SD-STD 101 Method 5009.2	Pneumatic pressure with 0.50 PSIG. Test duration not less than 15 minutes with 0.0125 PSIG loss allowed after temperature stabilization.	Ambient	Water manometer
11	HOISTING STRENGTH TEST MIL-STD-648 Para. 5.8.5	Single ring hoisting test. Hoist container at one lift point and leave hanging for five minutes. There shall be no damage or permanent deformation.	Ambient	Visual inspection

COMMENTS:

PREPARED BY:

Susan Hughey, Mechanical Engineer

APPROVED BY:

Ted Hinds, Chief, Design Br., AFPEA

AIR FORCE PACKAGING EVALUATION ACTIVITY (Container Test Plan)				AFPEA PROJECT NUMBER 88-P-102	
CONTAINER SIZE (L x W x D) (INCHES)		WEIGHT (LBS)		CUBE (CU. FT.)	QUANTITY
INTERIOR:	EXTERIOR:	GROSS:	ITEM:		DATE 3 Jul 89
ITEM NAME LRUs			MANUFACTURER Hardigg Industries		
CONTAINER NAME Part numbers 11214-8678-200				CONTAINER COST	
PACK DESCRIPTION Composite Container					
CONDITIONING As noted below.					
TEST NO.	REF STD/SPEC AND TEST METHOD OR PROCEDURE NO'S	TEST TITLE AND PARAMETERS	CONTAINER ORIENTATION	INSTRUMENTATION	
12.	<u>LEAK TEST</u> FED-STD-101 Method 5009.2	Pneumatic pressure with 0.50 PSIG. Test duration not less than 15 minutes with 0.0125 PSIG loss allowed after temperature stabilization.	Ambient	Water manometer	
13.	<u>SUPERIMPOSED LOAD (High temperature and humidity)</u> FED-STD-101 Method 5016.1	Condition at 120°F and 90% relative humidity for 168 hours a stack of two containers with additional load on top to simulate stacking 9 containers or 16 ft high, whichever is greater. Load equals load on bottom container times a factor of safety of 1. Additional load placed on top container such that the total load is carried by the stacking provisions. There shall be no permanent deformation.	Stack two high, bottom container is under test.	Visual inspection	
COMMENTS:					
PREPARED BY: Susan Hughey, Mechanical Engineer			APPROVED BY: Ted Hinds, Chief, Design Br., AFPEA		

# AIR FORCE PACKAGING EVALUATION ACTIVITY

(Container Test Plan)

AFPEA PROJECT NUMBER

88-P-102

CONTAINER SIZE (L x W x D) (INCHES)

INTERIOR:

EXTERIOR:

WEIGHT (LBS)

GROSS:

ITEM:

CUBE (CU. FT.)

QUANTITY

DATE

3 Jul 89

ITEM NAME

LRUs

MANUFACTURER

Hardigg Industries

CONTAINER NAME

Part numbers 11214-8678-200

CONTAINER COST

PACK DESCRIPTION

Composite Container

CONDITIONING

As noted below.

TEST NO.	REF STD SPEC AND TEST METHOD OR PROCEDURE NO'S	TEST TITLE AND PARAMETERS	CONTAINER ORIENTATION	INSTRUMENTATION
14.	<u>LEAK TEST</u> FED-STD-101 Method 5009.2	Pneumatic pressure with 0.50 PSIG. Test duration not less than 15 minutes with 0.0125 PSIG loss allowed after temperature stabilization.	Ambient	Water Manometer

COMMENTS:

PREPARED BY:

Susan Hughey, Mechanical Engineer

APPROVED BY:

Ted Hinds, Chief, Design Br., AFPEA



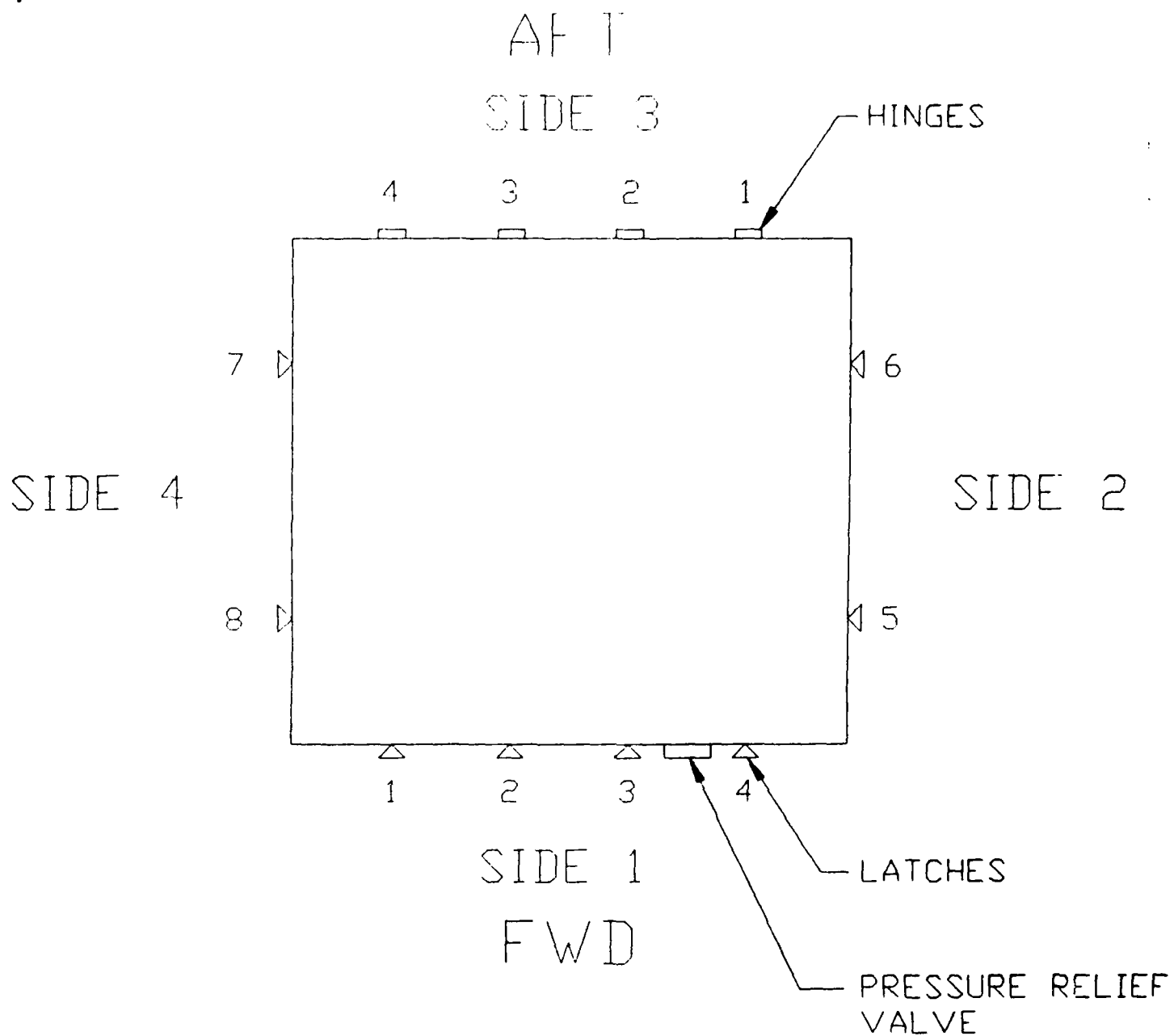


FIGURE 1. -200 Side, Latch and Hinge Numbering.

Figure 2

-200  
Prototype  
Container.



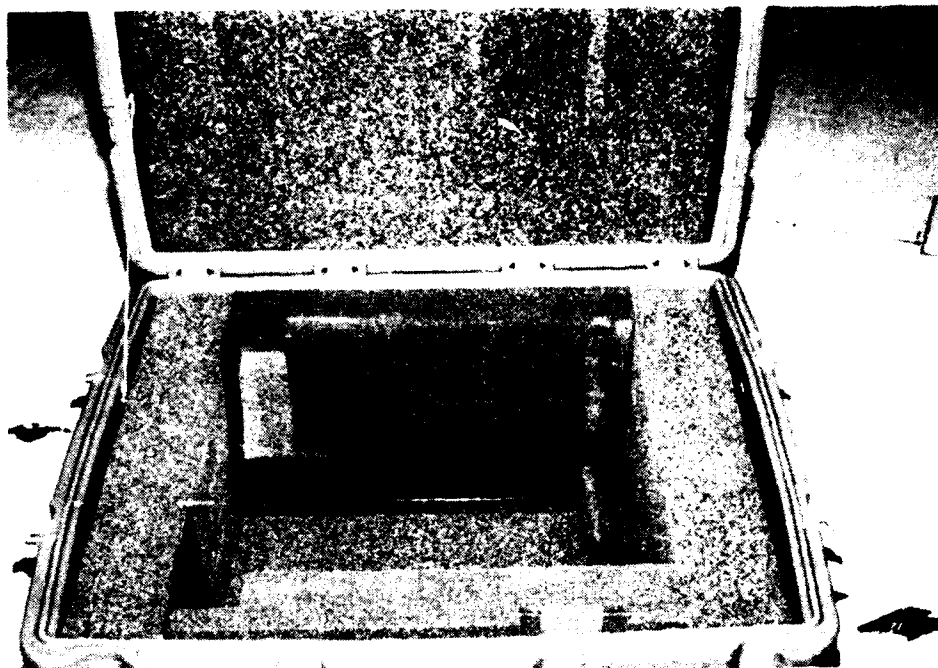
Figure 3

-200  
Hinge  
Placement.



Figure 4

-200  
Container  
Cushioning.



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HQ DLA/OWP Cameron Station Alexandria, VA 22304-6100	1
ASD/VXAL Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433	2
ASD/VXA Wright-Patterson AFB OH 45433	1

-200 CONTAINER - DETAILED ACCELERATION RESULTS

---

HIGH TEMPERATURE ROUGH HANDLING TESTS (+140<sup>o</sup> F)

Impact	Position	Accelerometer readings (Gs)
		Resultant
18" free fall drop	Corner 1-2	12
18" free fall drop	Corner 3-4	7
18" free fall drop	Side 3	11
18" free fall drop	Side 4	13

1. No damage to the container or the test load.
- 

LOW TEMPERATURE ROUGH HANDLING TESTS (-20<sup>o</sup> F)

Impact	Position	Accelerometer readings (Gs)
		Resultant
18" free fall drop	Corner 1-4	13
18" free fall drop	Corner 2-3	13
18" free fall drop	Side 1	9
18" free fall drop	Side 2	15

1. No damage to the container or the test load.
- 

VIBRATION FATIGUE TEST

Natural frequency 15.0 Hz  
(input: 1.04 G peak, 0.125 inch double amplitude)

	Resultant
Maximum Acceleration (Gs, peak to peak)	2.6
Maximum Transmissibility	1.2

1. No damage to the container or the test load.
-